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# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

## LOAN EXHIBITION

OF

# Colonial and Revolutionary Relics

PRESENTED TO

## THE GASPEE CHAPTER

OF THE

# DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

MAY, 1892

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PROVIDENCE, R. I.

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PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 11th, 1892.

*To the Executive Committee of the Gaspee Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution:*

LADIES: As Chairman of your Committee for the Exhibition recently held in Providence of colonial and revolutionary relics it has become my duty to submit the following report:

At a meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution held on the eleventh of January, 1892, at the house of Mrs. William R. Talbot, Honorary Regent, for the purpose of organizing a chapter of that society in this city, immediately after the organization of said chapter (called the Gaspee chapter) a Committee was appointed, consisting of Mrs. Eli Whitney Blake and Mrs. A. Livingston Mason, to organize and carry on an exhibition of colonial and revolutionary relics at Providence, at such time and place as should later be decided upon, under the auspices of the Gaspee Chapter. This committee was afterwards enlarged and consisted finally of the two ladies first appointed together with Mrs. Joshua Wilbour, our State Regent, Mrs. William R. Talbot, Miss Julia L. Mauran, Mrs. Walter A. Peck and Miss Mary C. Talbot. As the work opened out before us and assumed rather unexpected proportions, still more workers were found necessary to organize the exhibition, and the following ladies kindly consented to assist the ladies of the Committee. To their zealous and cordial aid we feel ourselves extremely indebted.

These ladies were in Providence: Miss J. M. Clarke, Miss Elizabeth B. Dexter, Miss Alice Hall Durfee, Miss Margaret L. Dwight,

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Miss Helen Talbot, Miss Anne T. Vernon, Miss Mary C. Wheeler, Mrs. Wilbour, as her work was principally outside of Providence, chose her assistants in Bristol. They worked with her there most successfully, but, much to our regret, were unable to attend the meetings of the Committee, which took place, of course, in Providence. These Bristol ladies were Miss Emma Bullock, Miss Florence DeWolf, Mrs. George French, Miss Katherine Herreshoff, Miss Clara May, Mrs. Frank Pratt, Miss Maria Shepard, Mrs. M. L. Williams. The first regular meeting of the Loan Committee took place at the house of the Chairman on the 15th of February, 1892, and the second on the 9th of March, after which the Committee met regularly every Wednesday at the same place, with but one exception, until the exhibition opened on the 19th of April. Mrs. Blake presided at every meeting. Miss Julia L. Mauran, who had been elected Secretary of the Committee, was absent only once, when her place was filled by Mrs. Walter A. Peck, Assistant Secretary. Mrs. C. F. Mason, Treasurer pro tem. of the Gaspee Chapter D. A. R., kindly consented to act as Treasurer of the Loan Committee. Special mention should be made here of the names of Miss Mary C. Talbot of the Committee, Miss Annie Stockbridge of the Committee *ex-officio*, Miss Florence DeWolf, and Miss Annie C. Cushing.

Miss Cushing did not join the corps of assistants until after the opening of the exhibition, but her enthusiasm and activity contributed to its success.

Miss Talbot besides her own share of general work and responsibility took more than the part of an assistant in the Colonial Tea Room.

Miss DeWolf was in like manner indefatigable in the State Regent's Room.

Miss Stockbridge from the beginning to the end of the exhibition, proved herself a member not only *ex-officio* but *de facto*, and her ready and systematic help was especially appreciated during the toilsome and responsible work of recollecting and returning the Relics.

The Committee would also record its grateful appreciation of the sustaining and refreshing as well as elegant hospitality of Governor Ladd and of Mrs. Isaac Hartshorn during the whole week of the Loan Exhibition.

I now proceed to give some account of the organization and conduct of our exhibition, classifying the facts rather with regard to their natural connection than to their chronological order. I shall try to do this not too minutely and yet minutely enough to leave such a record of our undertaking as may prove interesting and possibly useful in the future. Already from three cities of other states, one out of New England, letters have been received asking for points regarding our exhibition. One of these requests is prompted by the curiosity to know why the exhibition here was a success, while the one in that town was a failure. Another request comes from a lady who is Chairman of a Committee having in view the organization of an exhibition similar to that of the Gaspee Chapter, by a society kindred in aim to that of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The consciousness of this interest on the part of outsiders, I think, will give us a fresh interest in the consideration of this to us almost too familiar subject.

The exhibition having been decided upon, the next question was where it should be held. This question was speedily settled by the kindness and generosity of the Rhode Island Historical Society, prompted doubtless by their sympathy with the aims of our Society and their interest in the projected exhibition. Mrs. Talbot and your Chairman presented the subject with what eloquence they possessed, first to Mr. William D. Ely, who was no less enthusiastic than themselves, and then to various other officers and members of the Society, meeting from each and all a most cordial, though of course informal, assent. Finally, in reply to your Chairman's written request, and after the proper formalities, President Rogers wrote a most kind and extremely welcome letter, informing the Committee that by the unanimous vote of the Rhode Island Historical Society the Loan Committee was granted

the free use of the first floor and gallery of the Historical Cabinet for the projected Loan Exhibition. The presentation of complimentary tickets to all the members of the Historical Society, which the Committee was intending to make, was declined in anticipation, and not the slightest condition was attached to the loan of the rooms, excepting that implied in the statement that the Cabinet was at all times in charge of the librarian of the Society and his assistants. This self-denying ordinance of the Historical Society, shutting itself out from its own rooms, especially during its anniversary day, was received by your Committee with the most lively expressions of appreciation and gratitude. That cordial and generous spirit manifested by President Rogers in his letter was no less evident in the unvarying courtesy and helpfulness extended to the ladies of the Loan Committee by the Secretary and Librarian, Mr. Perry, and his assistants, during the whole period of the invasion of the Cabinet,—a sort of invasion it was of that scholastic tranquility. It may be mentioned here that the ladies of the Committee did their utmost by covering all the book-shelves of the Cabinet from ceiling to floor, and by taking every other practicable precaution to prevent loss or danger accruing to their benefactors through them. It is gratifying to add that Mr. Perry has expressed in most cordial terms his recognition of the scrupulous care taken by the Committee and his complete satisfaction with the condition in which the rooms were left after the close of the exhibition.

The place for the exhibition, and that the best possible place, having been secured, another problem was the lighting of the rooms. The picture gallery of the Cabinet is lighted by gas, and its other rooms are improvized with fixtures, being used solely for work in the day-time. Gas light, lamp and candle light were all discussed by the Loan Committee, but judged undesirable on many accounts, especially because they would over-heat the low-studded rooms in the east and west wings of the building. Electricity was considered desirable, but was deemed too expensive.

Your Chairman laid these facts before Mr. Marsden J. Perry, of the Narragansett Electric Lighting Company, and asked him to make an estimate of the expense for incandescent electric lights sufficient for the purposes of the Exhibition. Mr. Perry came himself to view the situation, and solved the problem by putting in all the necessary appliances and providing the most excellent and satisfactory incandescent lighting through the whole Exhibition, and for some days preceding and following it, all without expense. If anyone asks the secret of the success of the Loan Exhibition, was it not in the generosity of its friends?

To acquaint the public with the nature of the proposed exhibition, so as to obtain reliques and sell tickets, was the next care of the Committee. With this aim in view, besides the usual advertisements, articles were published by Mrs. Mason in the various newspapers of our State. An effort was made to interest the teachers and pupils of our public and private schools in the exhibition. A letter of Mrs. Mason, admirably adapted to this end, appeared in the *Providence News*, setting forth the educating element of the exhibition, and its many interesting and agreeable features. Several ladies of the Committee made other efforts in this direction, but, much to their disappointment, excepting in two instances, without success. A party of students from the State Normal School and another party from Miss Wheeler's school, conducted by their respective teachers of history, did attend the exhibition, and were evidently much amused as well as interested and instructed by their visit. The public schools and many of the private schools were in vacation during the whole of the exhibition, which may account for their seeming want of interest in the matter.\*

All things considered, the first aim and duty and unceasing

\* Mr. George A. Littlefield, the Principal of the State Normal School, writes: "Your admirable Historical Loan Exhibition was generally attended by our teachers and students, the teacher in history taking her pupils there in a body. We considered the enterprise a great aid to historical studies in Rhode Island."

solicitude of a Loan Committee is to get, keep and return the objects loaned in safety. A prevalent idea that loans do not come back in safety to their owners is the principal obstacle that collectors for such exhibitions find in their way. Your Committee has to report a perfect success in this particular. It is true that with the exception of valuable objects obtained by the Committee through Mrs. A. Livingston Mason, from New York, Washington and other places, almost all the loans for this exhibition were procured in Rhode Island, which covers not a large territory. Due allowance being made for that favorable circumstance, there remains, perhaps, some credit to the Committee for their success in such an important particular. It has, in fact, been very generally commented upon, and it is therefore worth while to state the means and the various precautions taken to ensure it.

A special committee was elected to receive the loans. This consisted of Mrs. Wilbour in Bristol and Mrs. Mason and your Chairman in Providence. Mrs. Wilbour undertook to see to the Bristol arrangements herself, and to have all the reliques collected by her brought from Bristol to the Historical Cabinet in Providence and taken back to their owners at her own expense. She made her own arrangements and they met with complete success. She has written to your Chairman that all the loans entrusted to her were returned to their respective owners in perfect condition, and that everybody was happy. This statement is made here because, as Mrs. Wilbour was too far away to consult freely with the Providence members of the Committee, her arrangements were somewhat independent of theirs, and much of this report would not apply to the Bristol part of our organization. Mrs. Blake and Mrs. Mason carried on the correspondence involved in the matter of collecting reliques. A large correspondence it was for both, and Mrs. Mason's was much the heavier of the two. The other ladies of the Committee and the whole corps of assistants interested themselves actively in obtaining exhibits.

Tags, having the name of Mrs. Blake or Mrs. Mason and the

address of the Historical Society printed upon them, were sent to each exhibitor with the request that they should be used in forwarding the articles to be loaned. The ladies above mentioned were present, on stated days, at the Historical Rooms to receive the loans consigned to them. Printed forms of receipt had been prepared, having stubs, and in book form. As each loan came in, a receipt, numbered, and containing a description of the article or articles in question, was handed, or sent by post, to the exhibitor, signed by the lady to whom the loan had been delivered and countersigned by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary. The description and number were repeated on the stub. A number corresponding to that on the receipt and stub was fastened inconspicuously to each article. When the time came to sort the loans and return them, it was very easy to collect together all that bore the same number, and then verify the collection by reference to the stub to see that no article was wanting. Besides the number on the receipt, another and different number was placed on each article, evident to the public, and corresponding to the number on the catalogue. Many valuable paintings were consigned to the Historical Rooms on the Thursday before the exhibition was to open. A policy of insurance was therefore taken out with the Washington Insurance Company from that day for fifty thousand dollars, covering the objects in charge, and a correspondingly larger policy at a later day when the remainder of the loans had come in. The insurance covered the days spent in preparing and in breaking up the exhibition, as well as the actual days of its duration. The Committee also provided adequate fire and police protection day and night, as well as a special night watchman with his assistant. A special insurance for the pictures loaned by the State was effected by Governor Ladd at his own expense.

Next to be considered came catalogues, tickets and badges. In considering the catalogues it should be stated that while the Committee was a unit in regard to the exhibition and each mem-

ber equally interested in the success of the whole affair, a division of labor was necessary and the rooms were given respectively into the charge of individual members of the Committee to arrange according to each one's taste and judgment. Each of these ladies made out the catalogue of her own room, and the four catalogues thus made were bound in one cover. The Committee on Printing consisted of Mrs. Mason and Miss Mauran. The cover of the catalogue was designed by Mrs. Mason, was much admired, and, what was still more important, invited purchasers. It was adorned by emblems and mottoes of our Society, State and Nation, the Rhode Island Anchor, the Daughters' Spinning Wheel, the red white and blue of the National flag. It bore the date of the opening of our exhibition, which corresponded to that of the 70th anniversary of the Rhode Island Historical Society, and the 117th of the Battle of Lexington and Concord. On the back of the cover was a sketch of the schooner Gaspee of pre-revolutionary fame, drawn by Mr. S. G. Studley. The catalogues sold for twenty-five cents apiece. They were not free from some amusing mistakes, but these may perhaps be excused in consideration of their necessarily hurried preparation and printing. The tickets were kindly designed by Mr. Eli W. Blake. They were in coupon form, one part being handed in at the door and the other part retained as a souvenir. The day tickets were printed in blue ink and sold at twenty-five cents, the evening tickets printed in red ink, sold for fifty cents each. The portion kept by the holder contained a programme of refreshments and music, with a colonial flag of 1776\* in the corner, and on the back the star-spangled banner. Thus those who could not or did not buy catalogues possessed a little souvenir in the ticket itself. Badges were worn during the exhibition by the ladies of the Committee and their

\*This flag was selected as pre-eminently suitable for our purpose. The Union Jack in the corner represented the Colonial element of our exhibition, and the thirteen red and white stripes the Revolutionary element. This flag and its description may be found on pages 157, 193 and 239 of Preble's History of the Flag of the United States of America.

assistants, as well as by several gentlemen who kindly lent their aid and who were in consequence constantly passing in and out of the building. Miss Talbot was the Committee on Badges. The badges were pretty, simple and inexpensive. They were of white watered silk ribbon, fringed for the ladies and unfringed for the gentlemen, and with "D. A. R. Loan Exhibition, 1892," inscribed on them in blue. The Loan Exhibition opened on the 19th of April, 1892, with fifteen hundred tickets, which proved to be an inadequate number, and five hundred catalogues, which also proved too few for the demand.

The visitor to the Exhibition was ushered immediately into the auditorium of the Historical Society. This room was in charge of Mrs. A. Livingston Mason, assisted by Miss J. M. Clarke, Miss Elizabeth B. Dexter, Mrs. Walter A. Peck, Miss Margaret A. Dwight, Miss Alice Hall Durfee, Miss Julia Lippitt Mauran, Miss Edith Livingston Mason. This room fairly blazed with patriotism, ceiling, walls and gallery all voluminously draped with the star-spangled banner. The exhibit was as rich as the decoration was appropriate and effective. The tickets were sold outside of this door and the catalogues just inside of it. On the same counter with the catalogues there were also sets and articles of china, decorated with the D. A. R. emblems, which Mrs. Mason had had made to order to be sold for the benefit of the Gaspee Chapter. The relics of this room were so many and various and so comprehensive that one might have passed weeks in examining them.

The central objects of attraction were, of course, the relics of Revolutionary Heroes, beginning with those of General Washington. One of the most interesting of these exhibits was the original eagle of the Order of the Cincinnati, which Washington procured in Paris through Lafayette and which he wore at the meeting of the Cincinnati in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, in 1784. Another was his letter resigning his membership of the Rhode Island State Society of Cincinnati, traced from the original sent to

Colonel Jeremiah Olney, by Mrs. Sarah H. Cushing. It may be permitted to comment here upon what was commented upon at the Exhibition as one of its most interesting features, and this was that the affection and reverence for Washington seemed as fresh in the public mind as if he had died yesterday. Any article whatever connected, however vaguely, with his name, was sought out and regarded with the most profound interest, no matter what other objects might be slighted. No one seemed too young or too old, too wise or too foolish, too grand or too humble, to join in this legitimate hero-worship—which does honor to Americans and ought to bear some fruit in noble citizenship. Only second to those of Washington there were reliques of special interest to Rhode Islanders as recalling the splendid services of many of her patriotic sons, conspicuously those of the two brothers, General and Colonel Greene, General Christopher Lippitt and General Barton. Besides such articles and many manuscripts and books, precious from antiquity, beautiful old miniatures and exquisite porcelain and jewelry were to be seen. The youngest relic of all (it might be called a relic of the future) was a piece of her own handiwork, sent by Mrs. Harrison, the wife of the President of the United States, and herself the President General of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The picture gallery, which, with the auditorium, forms as it were one room and covers the whole body of the building, was in charge of Mrs. William R. Talbot and Mrs. William Ames, assisted by Miss Mary C. Wheeler, Mrs. Albert G. Durfee, Miss Martha Sayles, Miss Harriett Talbot, Miss Mary N. Foster. The Historical Society had kindly permitted most of its own pictures to be taken down to make room for those which had been loaned to the Exhibition. The loan collection was a large and valuable one and it was displayed to the best advantage by the aid of Miss Wheeler's discriminating judgment. There were many paintings of great historical as well as artistic interest. There were portraits by Copley, by Stuart, by Harding, by Alexander, and some

exquisite miniatures by Malbone. Among them were paintings loaned by the State, by Brown University, by the Rhode Island Historical Society. The portraits of Charles II. and his Queen, Adam Winthrop and his wife, General and Mrs. Nathanael Greene, attracted especial attention ; and also those of Nathaniel Gardner and of his son, Robert S. Gardner. There were many beautiful miniatures : among them those of General Greene's daughter and of other members of his family possessed particular interest. The picture gallery contained also several show cases filled with miniatures, manuscripts and other interesting reliques, among them a pink satin costume worn by a gentleman of Newport at the French court during the reign of Louis XVI. In one of these cases were contained the charter and books of the Gaspee Chapter of the D. A. R., the charter framed in wood of the old Gaspee room in which was formed the plot to burn the British schooner of that name, and the books elegantly bound in blue and white vellum, the colors of the Society.

In the west wing of the building opening out of the picture gallery was the State Regent's room, in charge of Mrs. Joshua Wilbour and her assistants, Miss Florence DeWolf, Mrs. Frank Pratt, Mrs. George French, Miss Emma Bullock, Miss Clara May, Miss Katherine Herreshoff, Mrs. M. L. Williams. This room was hung with yellow bunting and decorated with a frieze of blue China plates, each one perfect in itself and of some special historic interest. On entering the room a welcome sight was the lemonade table where from morning to night the thirsty might be refreshed at the moderate price of five cents. On the other side of the door, beside the lemonade counter pretty gold and silver souvenir spoons were displayed and sold for the benefit of the Gaspee Chapter. The reliques contained in this room were very choice and valuable. They consisted of miniatures, manuscripts, pieces of ancient furniture, beautiful specimens of silverware and glass, most of them interesting from their historical or ancestral associations. They had been collected principally in Bristol, a town which was one of the

centres of aristocratic colonial life and where the descendants of the colonial families still cherish with veneration the treasures of their ancestors.

The room in the east wing, corresponding to that of the State Regent's in the west was in charge of Mrs. Eli Whitney Blake assisted by Mrs. William Maxwell Greene, Miss E. DeWolf, Miss Mary C. Talbot, Miss Adelaide Winthrop Vernon, Miss Francis Hoppin, Miss Helen Talbot, Miss Anne Talbot Vernon, Miss H. Francis Henshaw, Miss Elizabeth Kendall, Miss Sophie Vernon. This room was called the Colonial Tea-room and the aim was to preserve the unities of time and place by strictly excluding all reliques, however valuable, that did not contribute to the desired illusion. The room being low-studded with small windows and a somewhat old-fashioned air, lent itself to the scheme. It set off admirably the antique furniture of mellow-hued mahogany, the brass and silver candle-sticks multiplied in many quaintly framed mirrors, the white painted mantel with its veritable colonial clock, and, above all, the ladies in stiff brocades or antique muslins, who presided at the tea-table at which the ancestress of some of them had poured out tea for Washington, hospitably handed the old fashioned cake, played upon the well tuned spinet, or gathered, chatting according to the fashion of all ages, around the admirably reproduced old colonial fire-place. Descending from airy illusions to pecuniary facts it should be stated that a cup of choice tea with genuine cream and cake ad libitum cost ten cents in the Colonial Tea-room; generous yet not expensive to the Society, since almost all the cake was begged. Neither did the Committee here abate a jot of its scruples regarding the inviolability of the loans. Except in the one instance of a loving cup, which Washington had drunk from and which its exhibitor kindly offered for this use, no loaned silver or porcelain was used in the tea-room. The spoons and crockery were hired and her own old fashioned silver tea service was sent over daily by a member of the Committee who lived conveniently near to the Historical building. A somewhat detailed



description has been given of the Colonial Tea-room, because, so far as is known to your Committee, it has never before been a feature of any loan exhibition and it appeared to attract and interest the public.

During the exhibition the doors were open from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M., and from 7 P.M. to 11 P.M. every day, excepting on the evening of Thursday, when they were closed. The attendance was large during the first two days— even crowded in the evenings; and it was satisfactory throughout. The falling off in attendance was probably due to the fact that the Committee had advertised at first that the exhibition would last only two days. The second set of advertisements announcing that it would be prolonged to the close of the week failed to counteract the impression conveyed to the public at the start.

On the evening of Tuesday, April 19th, Judge Rogers, the President of the Rhode Island Historical Society, yielding to the pressing request of the Executive Committee of the Gaspee Chapter, made a short and graceful address. He alluded to the interesting anniversaries which the Historical Society and the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated on that evening, and addressed words of courteous welcome to the ladies of the Loan Committee, and of cordial sympathy with the aims of the Society under whose auspices their undertaking was carried on.

On Wednesday evening His Excellency the Governor of the State with his Staff visited the exhibition. Governor Ladd made a few happy remarks in introducing the Rev. E. G. Porter, formerly of Lexington, Massachusetts. Mr. Porter, who had made the formal anniversary discourse at Lexington on the previous day, had come to Providence to make us an informal address at the invitation of the Executive Committee. His address was most appropriate and acceptable. Governor Ladd also introduced Col. Asa Bird Gardner, Secretary-General of the Order of the Cincinnati, who at the request of your Chairman had kindly consented to say a few impromptu words.

Later in the evening, all these gentlemen, together with the ladies in charge of the various rooms, and others, took refreshments as guests in the Colonial Tea-Room. The Providence Symphony Orchestra was entertained in a similar manner, as had been on the preceding evening the Quartette of the Brown University Glee Club. The Committee was greatly indebted to the former of these musical organizations, conducted by Mr. Robert Bonner, on two evenings, and to the latter, under the management of Mr. Herbert H. Rice, on one evening, for delightful instrumental and vocal music. Mrs. J. Peace Vernon, of Newport, and Miss Merchant, of Warren, were also kind enough to sing, a favor which was highly appreciated.

On the last two evenings of the Exhibition, to quote the language of Nathanael Greene\* describing an evening in his quarters, when General Washington danced for three hours with Mrs. Greene almost without stopping, "we had quite a frisk." General Washington and General and Mrs. Greene looked down upon this "frisk" from their picture frames, for it took place in the picture gallery of the Exhibition. Daines and damsels on the floor, in the antique costumes worn by the pictured ladies on the walls, went through the paces of the stately minuet and the sprightly contradance in such charming style as to prove that they still preserved in grace as well as in patriotism the spirit of '76. And so gaily the Loan Exhibition closed. And while friends and public clapped their hands and said it was a great success, the ladies who had organized and conducted it sat down to consider how much of a success it had been. In the first place a quickening of historical, antiquarian and patriotic interest was one of its evident results. Another was the creation or strengthening of friendly sentiment toward the Society under whose auspices the Exhibition had been held. Moreover, pleasure of a healthful kind and adapted to people of all sorts and all ages had been provided and

\* Irving's Life of Washington, Vol. IV., Page 438.

had been widely appreciated and enjoyed. And that is always pure gain to a community. Besides the moral results of the Exhibition, the statement of the Treasurer shows: Gross receipts, \$1039.18 ; expenses, \$787.60, leaving a balance of \$246.93 where-with to replenish the treasury of the *Gaspee Chapter*. The Committee had not run into debt nor had it been obliged to fall back upon the generous providers of its guarantee fund. From the outset its aim had been moral rather than material advantage, and, all things considered, the Committee was satisfied with the result of its labors; satisfied, but not self-satisfied.

Probably there were many things about the *Loan Exhibition* that might have been better. It certainly would have been better had the ladies in charge of the various rooms had more time to consult with each other concerning the grouping and classification of the reliques. The catalogue, and indeed the whole *Exhibition*, was got up so rapidly, and the loans poured in so fast and so spasmodically, that it was found impossible to group and classify. Some confusion was due to the fact that, there being no show cases in the *Colonial Tea Room*, objects catalogued in that room had to be placed in the picture gallery. But, apart from this, there was an evident want of classification. An effort was made to arrange in separate groups the reliques of Washington, of Greene, and of the signers of the *Declaration of Independence*, but there was no time to lay the scheme before the Committee and to put it through. Some future *Loan Committee* may adopt it. Especially would it seem appropriate in *Rhode Island* that an *Exhibition of Colonial and Revolutionary Reliques* should present a special exhibit of the reliques of General Nathanael Greene, whose birth-place and home were in this State, and whose descendants and kindred are still among its citizens. Such a collection thus classified it would be *Rhode Island's* pride to exhibit, as it was her privilege to give to the cause of American Independence that name which, in the opinion of the world and in the hearts of his countrymen, stands next to the name of Washington.

Nothing now is left to relate, to confess or to suggest. It only remains for the Committee to return its cordial thanks to all, named or unnamed, in this Report, whose wise counsels, friendly sympathy, and active aid have facilitated and supplemented its labors.

*For the Committee,*

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH VERNON BLAKE,

*Chairman.*



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